

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method for the brightening of synthetic ~~fibers and plastics, which comprises fiber or plastic comprising the step of~~ incorporating a granulated optical brightener into the synthetic ~~fibers fiber or plastics~~ plastic, ~~wherein the granulated optical brightener has at least one optical brightener and being obtained via~~ is obtained by compacting ~~of an optical brightener in powder form in a~~ an optical brightener in powder form in a pressure compactor under a pressure of from 3 to 50 kNewton/cm of tube length ~~to form a compactate and then comminuting the resultant compactate to from the granulated optical brightener.~~
2. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~the the at least one optical brightener of the granulated optical brightener incorporated in granulated form~~ absorbs in the range from 260 to 400 nm and emits in the visible spectrum at from 400 to 450 nm.
3. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the incorporating step further comprises adding the granulated optical brightener is added to the monomers underlying of the synthetic fibers fiber or plastics plastic and polymerizing the fiber or plastic, ~~and then the polymerization is carried out.~~
4. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, ~~which uses a granulated wherein the optical brightener which comprises~~ comprises a shading dye.
5. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, ~~which uses wherein at least one optical brightener of the granulated optical brighteners which are composed of~~ brightener comprises a mixture of two or more optical brighteners.
6. (New) A method for brightening synthetic fiber or plastic comprising the step of incorporating at least one granulated optical brightener into the synthetic fiber or

plastic, wherein the granulated optical brightener has at least one optical brightener and is obtained by compacting an optical brightener in powder form in a pressure compactor under a pressure of from 3 to 50 kNewton/cm of tube length to form a compactate and comminuting the compactate to from the granulated optical brightener.

7. (New) The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein the at least one granulated optical brightener is two or more granulated brighteners.
8. (New) A brightened synthetic fiber made in accordance with process of claim 1.
9. (New) A brightened plastic made in accordance with process of claim 1.
10. (New) A brightened synthetic fiber made in accordance with process of claim 6.
11. (New) A brightened plastic made in accordance with process of claim 6.